



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

ISSUED BY GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES
BEACONSFIELD HOUSE, HONG KONG. TEL.: 842 8777

THURSDAY, MARCH 7, 1991

<u>CONTENTS</u>	<u>PAGE NO.</u>
ASIA SOCIETY BRINGS NEW PERSPECTIVE TO HONG KONG	1
1990 - A STABLE YEAR FOR GARMENT INDUSTRY: STI	3
FOUR TELEPOINT LICENCES ISSUED	4
HIGHER TOBACCO TAX HELPS YOUNG PEOPLE	5
RUNNERS AND UNREGISTERED DEALERS IN SECURITIES TO BE BROUGHT UNDER REGULATORY CONTROL	6
REMINDER ON NEW TAVA FEES FOR VEHICLE AND DRIVING LICENCES	7
FURTHER AMENDMENTS TO ELECTION LAW TO BE GAZETTED TOMORROW	7
DEPOSIT-TAKING CO REGISTRATION REVOKED	8
ISLANDERS URGED TO SPEAK UP ON NORTH LANTAU DEVELOPMENTS	9
OPENING OF THE IMMIGRATION SERVICE DEPARTMENTAL QUARTERS	9
DEMOLITION OF ILLEGAL CANOPY STARTED	10
FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING TOMORROW	10
LADY FORD TO OPEN FLOWER SHOW	11
I.D. CARD REMINDER FOR WOMEN BORN IN 1929-34	11
YAU TSIM TO HOLD FIGHT CRIME CARNIVAL	12
CSD PARTICIPATES IN FLOWER SHOW	13
TENDERS INVITED FOR SHORT-TERM TENANCY	14

THURSDAY, MARCH 7, 1991

- 1 -

ASIA SOCIETY BRINGS NEW PERSPECTIVE TO HONG KONG

* * * * *

THE PRESENCE OF THE ASIA SOCIETY IN HONG KONG WILL BRING US A NEW PERSPECTIVE OF THE POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS IN THIS PART OF THE WORLD, THE DEPUTY TO THE GOVERNOR, SIR DAVID FORD, SAID TODAY (THURSDAY).

SPEAKING AT THE INAUGURAL DINNER OF THE ASIA SOCIETY HONG KONG, SIR DAVID SAID HONG KONG LOOKED FORWARD TO THE GREATER VARIETY THE SOCIETY WOULD BRING TO THE LIVES HERE THROUGH THE SPONSORSHIP OF PROGRAMMES NOT ONLY IN THE FIELD OF POLITICS AND ECONOMICS, BUT THE ARTS AND CULTURE AS WELL.

"WE PARTICULARLY WELCOME IT AT THIS TIME IN OUR HISTORY WHEN OUR NEED FOR A CLEAR UNDERSTANDING AMONG THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY IS AT ITS GREATEST," HE SAID.

SIR DAVID SAID HONG KONG WAS PROUD AND JUST A LITTLE BIT FLATTERED THAT THE SOCIETY HAD CHOSEN HONG KONG FOR ITS FIRST OVERSEAS CENTRE.

"WE ARE PROUD BECAUSE THE SOCIETY HAS LOOKED BENEATH THE BRASH COMMERCIAL SURFACE OF MODERN HONG KONG, AND RECOGNISED THOSE ALMOST INDEFINABLE STRANDS OF KINSHIP, OF CULTURE, OF COMMERCE AND OF CREED WHICH BIND HONG KONG AND ITS PEOPLE INTO THE HISTORICAL FABRIC OF ASIA.

"AND WE ARE FLATTERED BECAUSE WE SEE OURSELVES VERY MUCH AS ASIA'S GATEWAY, THE PLACE WHERE, DESPITE KIPLING'S WARNING TO THE CONTRARY, EAST DOES INDEED MEET WEST," SIR DAVID SAID.

NOTING THAT MANY HAD FORECAST THAT THE 21ST CENTURY WOULD BE THE AGE OF THE PACIFIC, SIR DAVID SAID: "FOR HONG KONG, AT THE CROSS ROADS OF THE ASIA PACIFIC DIVIDE, THE AGE HAS ALREADY COME.

"AS THE MOMENTUM OF ECONOMIC CHANGE INCREASES, WE SHOULD FOSTER LINKS BETWEEN BOTH SIDES OF THE PACIFIC. SO I CONGRATULATE THE ASIA SOCIETY ON ITS INITIATIVE IN TAKING THE STEP ACROSS THAT OCEAN," HE SAID.

SIR DAVID SAID THE ASIA SOCIETY WOULD BE A MAGNET WHICH WOULD DRAW PEOPLE OF LEARNING AND OF INFLUENCE TO OUR CITY, LEADERS FROM THE BUSINESS WORLD, FROM THE GOVERNMENT AND FROM ACADEMIA.

HONG KONG WOULD BE ENRICHED BY THEIR COMING.

THEY, IN TURN, WOULD FIND THAT INFORMATION FLEW FREELY HERE, THAT CONTACTS WERE EASILY MADE, AND THAT MEETINGS OF MEN AND OF MINDS WERE MADE THAT MUCH SIMPLER, HE SAID.

"THIS OPEN-NESS AND ACCESSIBILITY IS CENTRAL TO HONG KONG'S SUCCESS. WE HAVE ALWAYS PRIDED OURSELVES AS A FREE AND OPEN SOCIETY.

/"RULE OF

THURSDAY, MARCH 7, 1991

- 2 -

"RULE OF LAW, FREEDOM OF THE PRESS AND THE INDEPENDENCE OF THE JUDICIARY ARE INTANGIBLES, BUT THEY ARE THE FOUNDATION STONES ON WHICH THIS SOCIETY HAS BEEN BUILT," SIR DAVID SAID.

RECOGNISING THAT HONG KONG HAD ITS CRITICS WHO INTENDED TO TALK OF CRASS COMMERCIALISM, OF AN ALL-CONSUMING PASSION FOR MAKING MONEY, OF UNMITIGATED MATERIALISM, SIR DAVID SAID: "AND YES, WE ARE MATERIALISTIC. HARDLY SURPRISING FOR A LARGELY REFUGEE SOCIETY.

"BUT WE ARE ALSO A GENEROUS, OPENHEARTED COMMUNITY WHOSE DONATIONS ON FLAG-DAYS AND WALKS-FOR-A-MILLION HAVE MADE IT INTO THE RECORD BOOKS.

"AND MATERIAL SUCCESS HAS PROVIDED THE WHEREWITHAL FOR THE PRESERVATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE, THE EXCHANGE OF IDEAS AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF NEW TRADITIONS," HE SAID.

SIR DAVID POINTED OUT THAT HONG KONG WAS NO LONGER THE CULTURAL DESERT OF THE '50S AND '60S.

"THE WORLD'S GREAT ORCHESTRAS AND SOLOISTS PERFORM HERE. EXHIBITIONS COME AND GO. IN TWO WONDERFUL ANNUAL FESTIVALS WE SPOIL OURSELVES ALTERNATELY WITH THE BEST THAT ASIA AND THE REST OF THE WORLD HAS TO OFFER.

"OUR OWN YOUNG TALENT ARE AT LAST RECEIVING PROPER TRAINING. A NEW MUSEUM WILL SHORTLY DISPLAY OUR OWN COLLECTIONS OF ART FROM CHINA AND OTHER PARTS OF THE REGION," HE SAID.

SIR DAVID SAID IN EVERY FIELD OF THE ARTS - FILM, PAINTING, SONG, DANCE, WRITING, MUSIC AND SCULPTURE - HONG KONG WAS DEVELOPING A DISTINCTIVE CULTURE ALL OF ITS OWN AND THE TERRITORY WAS ADDING ITS OWN INGREDIENTS TO THE EVER-CHANGING CULTURAL MELANGE THAT WAS ASIA.

AND HONG KONG CONTRIBUTED IN OTHER WAYS TO THE SPREAD OF IDEAS THROUGHOUT THE REGION BY DEMONSTRATING TO ALL THE BENEFITS OF OPENNESS, EQUALITY OF OPPORTUNITY AND FREEDOM OF CHOICE.

THERE WERE NO MORE POWERFUL INDUCEMENTS TO SELF-IMPROVEMENT AND THE FLOWERING OF CULTURE, SIR DAVID SAID.

SIR DAVID SAID THE INAUGURATION OF THE ASIA SOCIETY HONG KONG CENTRE HAD SET A SEAL ON THE WARM RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN HONG KONG AND THE SOCIETY.

"WE ARE TRULY DELIGHTED TO WELCOME THE ASIA SOCIETY TO HONG KONG. WE WILL GIVE IT EVERY SUPPORT AND ENCOURAGEMENT AND WE WISH IT ALL POSSIBLE SUCCESS IN THE YEARS AHEAD," SIR DAVID SAID.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/3

1990 - A STABLE YEAR FOR GARMENT INDUSTRY: STI

* * * * *

HONG KONG IS KEEN TO SEE THE GATT (GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE) ANTI-DUMPING CODE TIGHTENED AND IMPROVED TO AVOID ANTI-DUMPING CHARGES BECOMING A PROTECTIONIST TOOL, THE SECRETARY FOR TRADE AND INDUSTRY, MR JOHN CHAN, SAID TODAY (THURSDAY).

SPEAKING AT THE ANNUAL DINNER OF THE FEDERATION OF HONG KONG GARMENT MANUFACTURERS, MR CHAN SAID IN THE INTERNATIONAL ARENA THE GOVERNMENT HAD BEEN ACTIVELY INVOLVED IN MOST NEGOTIATING GROUPS OF THE URUGUAY ROUND UNDER THE GATT AND WOULD CONTINUE TO PLAY AN ACTIVE PART SO THAT FURTHER LIBERALISATION OF WORLD TRADE IN TEXTILES AND CLOTHING WOULD MATERIALISE.

THE 12TH COUNCIL MEETING OF THE INTERNATIONAL TEXTILES AND CLOTHING BUREAU AND THE EIGHTH ASIA PACIFIC REGIONAL CONSULTATIVE GROUP MEETING TO CO-ORDINATE THE POSITIONS OF PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES OR TERRITORIES ON THE URUGUAY ROUND HAD BEEN HOSTED HERE, HE SAID.

"IT WAS DISAPPOINTING THAT THE ROUND COULD NOT BE CONCLUDED LAST DECEMBER, BUT, WITH ITS RESUMPTION ON FEBRUARY 26, THE GOVERNMENT IS CONTINUING TO WORK TOWARDS INCORPORATION OF CLAUSES CONCERNING THE TEXTILE TRADE INTO THE TERMS OF THE GATT, WITH A VIEW TO GRADUALLY REPLACING THE EXISTING MULTI-FIBRE AGREEMENT," HE SAID.

MR CHAN DESCRIBED 1990 AS A "RATHER STABLE YEAR" FOR THE GARMENT INDUSTRY. BUSINESS HAD A SLUGGISH START, BUT RECOVERED IN THE SECOND HALF OF THE YEAR, HE SAID.

THE CONTRIBUTION OF THIS INDUSTRY TO OUR ECONOMY HAD REMAINED SIGNIFICANT: THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS AMOUNTED TO \$72.2 BILLION, ACCOUNTING FOR 32 PER CENT OF TOTAL DOMESTIC EXPORTS IN THE YEAR.

AT THE SAME TIME, IT HAD A WORKFORCE OF SOME 250,000, OR ABOUT 35 PER CENT OF TOTAL MANUFACTURING EMPLOYMENT.

BUT MR CHAN ADDED THAT THE GARMENT INDUSTRY WAS NOT WITHOUT PROBLEMS.

"LIKE OTHER INDUSTRIES, IT HAS EXPERIENCED DIFFICULTIES IN RECRUITING AND RETAINING WORKERS BECAUSE OF THE ATTRACTIONS OF THE EXPANDING SERVICES SECTOR.

"THE GLOBAL INCREASE IN THE PRICE OF COMMODITIES AND SEMI-MANUFACTURES, AND RISING LABOUR AND PRODUCTION COSTS, HAVE MADE IT MORE EXPENSIVE TO PRODUCE LOCALLY NOW THAN BEFORE," HE SAID.

IN RESPONSE TO THE CHALLENGES, MR CHAN SAID SOME LOCAL MANUFACTURERS HAD SHIFTED LABOUR-INTENSIVE PROCESSES IN LOWER MARKET-END PRODUCTS TO CHINA, PARTICULARLY TO NEARBY GUANGDONG, BUT MUCH OF THE INDUSTRY'S PRODUCTION WOULD CONTINUE TO BE UNDERTAKEN HERE DUE TO HONG KONG'S STRICT ENFORCEMENT OF ORIGIN RULES NECESSITATED BY OUR EXPORT QUOTA SYSTEM.

AUTOMATION WAS ANOTHER AREA LOCAL GARMENT MANUFACTURERS HAD WORKED ON.

THE USE OF COMPUTERISED MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS AND COMPUTER-AIDED SYSTEMS IN PATTERN AND MARKER GRADING WAS COMMON, AND COMPUTER-AIDED SYSTEMS FOR DESIGN, COMPUTERISED CUTTING, AND MATERIAL HANDLING WERE ALSO INCREASINGLY COMMON.

"WHILE MANUFACTURERS' PAST RESPONSE TO THE CHALLENGES HAS BEEN VERY ENCOURAGING, THE LONG-TERM GROWTH OF HONG KONG'S CLOTHING INDUSTRY LIES IN ITS CAPACITY TO PRODUCE EVEN HIGHER VALUE-ADDED PRODUCTS, TO FURTHER APPLY NEW TECHNOLOGY, TO DIVERSIFY AND TO PENETRATE NEW MARKETS.

"QUICK RESPONSE, AND THE FLEXIBLE MANAGEMENT SKILL OF HONG KONG GARMENT MANUFACTURERS TO ADAPT TO ORDERS OF SMALL QUANTITY AND SHORT DELIVERY SCHEDULES, WILL CONTINUE TO PLACE HONG KONG IN A COMPETITIVE POSITION.

"THE GOVERNMENT WILL CONTINUE TO PROMOTE THE WIDER APPLICATION OF NEW TECHNOLOGY IN THE GARMENT INDUSTRY," MR CHAN SAID.

- - - - 0 - - - -

FOUR TELEPOINT LICENCES ISSUED

* * * * *

THE POSTMASTER GENERAL AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS AUTHORITY, MR DOMINIC S.W. WONG, ANNOUNCED TODAY (THURSDAY) THAT LICENCES HAVE BEEN ISSUED TO THE FOLLOWING FOUR COMPANIES TO OPERATE TELEPOINT SERVICES IN HONG KONG BASED ON THE SECOND GENERATION CORDLESS TELEPHONE (CT 2) TECHNOLOGY:

- * CHEVALIER (TELEPOINT) LIMITED - A CONSORTIUM OF CHEVALIER (OA) HOLDINGS LIMITED AND OTC INTERNATIONAL LIMITED (AUSTRALIA)
- * HONG KONG CALLPOINT LIMITED - A CONSORTIUM OF HONG KONG TELECOM CSL LIMITED, SUN HUNG KAI HONG KONG INDUSTRIES LIMITED AND STAR PAGING (HOLDING) LIMITED
- * HUTCHISON PAGING LIMITED - A CONSORTIUM OF HUTCHISON TELECOMMUNICATIONS LIMITED AND MOTOROLA, INC. (U.S.A.)
- * PERSONAL COMMUNICATIONS LIMITED - A CONSORTIUM OF BRITISH TELECOMMUNICATIONS PLC (U.K.), FIRST PACIFIC COMPANY LIMITED, ABC COMMUNICATIONS LIMITED AND SUN HUNG KAI PROPERTIES LIMITED

"TELEPOINT SERVICES WILL BE ANOTHER LOW-COST, EFFECTIVE AND CONVENIENT MOBILE RADIO COMMUNICATION FACILITY WHICH THE PUBLIC CAN CHOOSE," MR WONG SAID.

/"SERVICES ARE

"SERVICES ARE EXPECTED TO BECOME AVAILABLE TOWARDS THE END OF THIS YEAR, AND WILL GRADUALLY EXPAND TO COVER THE URBAN AREAS OF HONG KONG ISLAND, KOWLOON AND THE NEW TERRITORIES.

"WITHIN THE AREAS COVERED, SUBSCRIBERS WILL BE ABLE TO MAKE TELEPHONE CALLS USING LIGHT-WEIGHT AND INEXPENSIVE HANDSETS," HE SAID.

IT IS UNDERSTOOD THAT ALTHOUGH CT 2 HANDSETS CANNOT NORMALLY RECEIVE CALLS WHEN USED OUTSIDE THE HOME OR PLACE OF WORK, THEY CAN LINK UP WITH RADIO PAGING SYSTEMS TO ALLOW USERS TO RECEIVE MESSAGES IF REQUIRED.

- - - - 0 - - - -

HIGHER TOBACCO TAX HELPS YOUNG PEOPLE

* * * * *

THE GOVERNMENT BELIEVES THAT THE INCREASE IN THE DUTY ON TOBACCO WILL GO SOME WAY TOWARDS DISCOURAGING YOUNG PEOPLE FROM SMOKING AND MAKE FOR A BETTER, HEALTHIER HONG KONG.

THIS WAS STATED TODAY (THURSDAY) BY PRINCIPAL ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR HEALTH AND WELFARE, MISS EMMA LAU, IN WELCOMING THE MEASURE ANNOUNCED BY THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY YESTERDAY.

"OVER THE YEARS WE HAVE BEEN TAKING MEASURES PROGRESSIVELY TO EDUCATE THE PUBLIC, PARTICULARLY THE YOUNG, ON THE HEALTH HAZARDS OF SMOKING AND MOTIVATING THEM NOT TO SMOKE.

"OUR EFFORTS HAVE RESULTED IN A GRADUAL REDUCTION IN THE PROPORTION OF DAILY SMOKERS IN THE POPULATION FROM 23.3 PER CENT IN THE EARLY 1980S TO 16.8 PER CENT IN THE LATE 1980S," MISS LAU SAID.

"HOWEVER, THERE ARE INDICATIONS THAT SMOKING AMONG YOUNG PEOPLE IS ON THE INCREASE, MAKING FURTHER DISINCENTIVES ALL THE MORE NECESSARY," SHE ADDED.

ACCORDING TO PROVISIONAL FIGURES FROM THE GENERAL HOUSEHOLD SURVEY FOR JULY 1990, ABOUT 20,600 PEOPLE AGED BETWEEN 15 AND 19 YEARS, OR 4.6 PER CENT OF THOSE IN THIS AGE BRACKET, WERE SMOKERS. THIS COMPARED WITH 15,700 PEOPLE OR 3.4 PER CENT IN 1988.

MISS LAU POINTED OUT THAT LUNG CANCER AND HEART DISEASE WERE TOP KILLERS IN HONG KONG AND THAT THERE WAS STRONG EVIDENCE THE WORLD OVER THAT SMOKING WAS A CONTRIBUTORY FACTOR FOR SUCH AILMENTS.

"EXPERIENCE ELSEWHERE HAS DEMONSTRATED THAT A TAX INCREASE CAN BE POWERFUL IN DETERRING YOUNG PEOPLE FROM SMOKING," SHE SAID.

WHEN THE GOVERNMENT INTRODUCED A 300 PER CENT INCREASE IN CIGARETTE TAXES IN 1983, THE 1984 GENERAL HOUSEHOLD SURVEY SHOWED THAT 19.7 PER CENT OF SMOKERS GAVE UP SMOKING BECAUSE OF THE HIGHER COST, SHE NOTED.

- - - - 0 - - - -

[This page is blank in the original document]

THURSDAY, MARCH 7, 1991

- 7 -

REMINDER ON NEW TAVA FEES FOR VEHICLE AND DRIVING LICENCES

* * * * *

THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT TODAY (THURSDAY) REMINDED VEHICLE AND DRIVING LICENCES APPLICANTS THAT NEW FEES FOR THE TRAFFIC ACCIDENT VICTIMS ASSISTANCE FUND (TAVA) WILL BE LEVIED ON LICENCES WHICH WILL TAKE EFFECT FROM APRIL 1.

UNDER THE NEW RATES, THE ANNUAL LEVY ON VEHICLE LICENCES WILL BE INCREASED FROM \$30 TO \$48, WHEREAS THE ANNUAL LEVY ON DRIVING LICENCES WILL BE RAISED FROM \$10 TO \$16.

A TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THE NEW LEVIES WERE APPROVED BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL IN NOVEMBER LAST YEAR SO THAT SUFFICIENT INCOME WILL ACCRUE TO THE FUND FOR DISBURSEMENT TO CLAIMANTS.

THE SPOKESMAN REMINDED APPLICANTS, PARTICULARLY THOSE USING CHEQUES OR POSTAL APPLICATIONS, TO INCLUDE THE NEW FEES WHEN MAKING PAYMENTS WHILE APPLYING FOR NEW LICENCES OR RENEWING LICENCES WHICH WILL TAKE EFFECT FROM APRIL 1.

- - - - 0 - - - -

FURTHER AMENDMENTS TO ELECTION LAW TO BE GAZETTED TOMMORROW

* * * * *

FURTHER PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO HONG KONG'S ELECTORAL LEGISLATION, CONCERNING ELECTION PETITION ARRANGEMENTS, WILL BE GAZETTED TOMORROW (FRIDAY).

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THESE WERE MAINLY CONSEQUENTIAL AMENDMENTS PROPOSED AS A RESULT OF RECENT REVISIONS TO ELECTORAL LEGISLATION.

THE AFFECTED SECTIONS OF THE ELECTORAL PROVISIONS ORDINANCE AND THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL (ELECTORAL PROVISIONS) ORDINANCE DEAL WITH THE PRESENTATION OF ELECTION PETITIONS FOR THE PURPOSE OF QUESTIONING THE RESULT OF ELECTIONS AND WERE AMENDED AT COMMITTEE STAGE PRIOR TO THE PASSING OF THE RESPECTIVE AMENDMENT BILLS BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ON NOVEMBER 28, 1990.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THESE AMENDMENTS WERE AIMED AT RATIONALISING THE ELECTION PETITION PROVISIONS BY PROVIDING FOR AN UNEQUIVOCAL DETERMINATION BY THE HIGH COURT AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE TRIAL OF SUCH AN ELECTION PETITION.

THEY ALSO PRESCRIBE CLEARER CIRCUMSTANCES UNDER WHICH A VACANCY MAY ARISE.

/"THESE

THURSDAY, MARCH 7, 1991

- 8 -

"THESE AMENDMENTS MEAN THAT THE PURPOSE OF LODGING ELECTION PETITIONS WILL FOCUS ON SIMPLY DETERMINING WHETHER OR NOT THE PERSON DECLARED TO HAVE BEEN ELECTED BY THE RETURNING OFFICER WAS 'DULY ELECTED' AT THAT ELECTION RATHER THAN ON DETERMINING WHETHER OR NOT A PARTICULAR ELECTION IS 'VOID'," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

HE NOTED THAT AT PRESENT, OTHER PROVISIONS CONTAINED IN THE URBAN COUNCIL ORDINANCE, THE REGIONAL COUNCIL ORDINANCE, THE DISTRICT BOARDS ORDINANCE, THE CORRUPT AND ILLEGAL PRACTICES ORDINANCE RELATING TO ELECTION PETITIONS AND THE DISQUALIFICATION OF ELECTED MEMBERS WERE DEPENDENT UPON THE REPEALED PROVISIONS.

FOR INSTANCE, THEY MAKE REFERENCE TO AN ELECTION DECLARED BY THE HIGH COURT TO BE VOID RATHER THAN A REFERENCE TO WHETHER OR NOT THE CANDIDATE HAS BEEN DULY ELECTED.

THE GOVERNMENT HAS ALSO TAKEN THE OPPORTUNITY TO SIMPLIFY THE GROUNDS UPON WHICH AN ELECTION PETITION MAY BE BROUGHT.

"THE EXISTING GROUNDS ARE UNNECESSARILY COMPLICATED AND CONFUSING. THEY ARE ALSO REPETITIVE," HE SAID.

THESE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS SHOULD MAKE IT EASIER FOR PROSPECTIVE PETITIONERS AND THEIR ADVISERS TO FRAME CORRECTLY-WORDED ELECTION PETITIONS.

- - - - 0 - - - -

DEPOSIT-TAKING CO REGISTRATION REVOKED

* * * * *

THE COMMISSIONER OF BANKING ANNOUNCED TODAY (THURSDAY) THAT THE REGISTRATION OF RNB FINANCE (HONG KONG) LIMITED AS A DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANY HAS BEEN REVOKED AS AT THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS ON MARCH 7, 1991 AT ITS OWN REQUEST UNDER SECTION 31(2) OF THE BANKING ORDINANCE.

- - - - 0 - - - -

THURSDAY, MARCH 7, 1991

- 9 -

ISLANDERS URGED TO SPEAK UP ON NORTH LANTAU DEVELOPMENTS

* * * * *

THE REGIONAL SECRETARY FOR NEW TERRITORIES, MR ADOLF HSU, TODAY (THURSDAY) URGED LANTAU RESIDENTS TO EXPRESS THEIR VIEWS ON THE MASSIVE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME IN THE NORTHERN PART OF THE ISLAND TO THE GOVERNMENT SO AS TO ENSURE FRANK CO-OPERATION BETWEEN THE TWO PARTIES.

"I WISH THAT COMMUNICATION BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT AND LOCAL RESIDENTS COULD BE FURTHER STRENGTHENED BECAUSE SUPPORT FROM THE LOCAL COMMUNITY IS CRUCIAL TO THE SMOOTH IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROJECTS," HE SAID.

SPEAKING TO OVER 1,000 ISLANDERS ATTENDING THE LANTAU CHINESE NEW YEAR CARNIVAL HELD AT THE PO LIN MONASTERY, MR HSU SAID THE ISLAND WOULD BE GIVEN A NEW FACELIFT FOLLOWING THE CONSTRUCTION OF AN AIRPORT AT CHEK LAP KOK AND A NEW TOWN IN TUNG CHUNG.

"THE AIRPORT PROJECT WILL SURELY BOOST THE ECONOMY OF HONG KONG AS A WHOLE AND GENERATE NUMEROUS OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE ISLANDERS AS WELL," HE SAID.

THE REGIONAL SECRETARY ALSO PRAISED THE LOCAL ORGANISATIONS FOR THEIR EFFORTS IN PROMOTING CULTURAL AND RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE RESIDENTS AND THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS AND INITIATIVES IN COMMUNITY BUILDING.

HE CITED THE NEW YEAR CARNIVAL AS AN EXAMPLE OF SUCCESSFUL CO-OPERATION AMONG LOCAL ORGANISATIONS ON LANTAU AS THE ANNUAL EVENT WAS GAINING RESPONSE FROM ISLANDERS EVERY YEAR.

OTHER OFFICIATING GUESTS INCLUDED THE REGIONAL COUNCIL CHAIRMAN, MR CHEUNG YAN-LUNG; LEGISLATIVE COUNCILLOR, MR LAM WAI-KEUNG; AND ISLANDS DISTRICT OFFICER, MR KIM SALKELD.

- - - - 0 - - - -

OPENING OF THE IMMIGRATION SERVICE DEPARTMENTAL QUARTERS

* * * * *

THE DIRECTOR OF IMMIGRATION, MR LAURENCE LEUNG, UNVEILED A PLAQUE TO COMMEMORATE THE OPENING OF THE IMMIGRATION SERVICE DEPARTMENTAL QUARTERS AT YEE KING HOUSE, HONG LAM COURT, SHA TIN TODAY (THURSDAY).

SPEAKING AT THE CEREMONY, MR LEUNG SAID 350 UNITS WERE ALLOCATED AND THIS WAS THE FIRST TIME THE IMMIGRATION SERVICE WAS PROVIDED WITH RANK AND FILE QUARTERS IN BULK.

"WITH SUCH PROVISION, THE HOUSING SITUATION OF THE JUNIOR OFFICERS HAS BEEN GREATLY IMPROVED. BUT ON THE OTHER HAND, WE ARE STILL FACING AN ACUTE SHORTFALL OF 518 QUARTERS FOR STAFF OF OFFICER GRADES," MR LEUNG SAID.

/THE ADMINISTRATION

THURSDAY, MARCH 7, 1991

- 10 -

THE ADMINISTRATION HAS RECENTLY APPROVED A PROVISION OF \$70 MILLION TO THE IMMIGRATION SERVICE IN A SPAN OF FOUR YEARS TO PURCHASE FLATS AS DEPARTMENTAL QUARTERS.

"ALTHOUGH SUCH PROVISION STILL LAGS FAR BEHIND OUR DEMAND, THE ACUTE SHORTFALL MAY BE SLIGHTLY EASED OFF," MR LEUNG ADDED.

- - - - 0 - - - -

DEMOLITION OF ILLEGAL CANOPY STARTED

* * * * *

THE DEMOLITION OF AN ILLEGAL CANOPY ON THE SECOND FLOOR OF CHUNG KING MANSIONS IN NATHAN ROAD, TSIM SHA TSUI STARTED TODAY (THURSDAY).

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE YAU TSIM DISTRICT OFFICE, WHICH COORDINATED THE OPERATION, SAID THE DEMOLITION DEMONSTRATED THE COOPERATION BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT AND THE PRIVATE SECTOR IN REMOVING POTENTIAL HAZARDS.

"SOME SLIGHT STRUCTURAL DEFECTS IN THE CANOPY WERE FIRST OBSERVED BY THE DISTRICT OFFICE STAFF DURING A ROUTINE VISIT TO THE BUILDING FOUR MONTHS AGO.

"FURTHER INVESTIGATION BY THE BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT CERTIFIED IT IS AN ILLEGAL STRUCTURE," HE SAID.

HE ALSO POINTED OUT THAT THE COST OF THE DEMOLITION IS BEING MET BY THE OWNER.

THE DEMOLITION IS DUE TO BE COMPLETED IN ABOUT FIVE WEEKS.

- - - - 0 - - - -

FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING TOMORROW

* * * * *

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE WILL HOLD A MEETING TOMORROW (FRIDAY) IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL CHAMBER, BEGINNING AT 2.30 PM.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE WELCOME TO OBSERVE THE COMMITTEE'S PROCEEDINGS FROM THE CHAMBER'S PUBLIC GALLERIES AND THEY MAY MAKE RESERVATIONS BY TELEPHONING 844 0899.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/11

THURSDAY, MARCH 7, 1991

- 11 -

LADY FORD TO OPEN FLOWER SHOW
* * * * *

LADY FORD, WIFE OF THE CHIEF SECRETARY, WILL OFFICIATE AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE 1991 HONG KONG FLOWER SHOW TO BE HELD ON THE PODIUM OF SHA TIN TOWN HALL TOMORROW (FRIDAY) AT 10.30 AM.

THIS YEAR'S SPECTACULAR SHOW, JOINTLY PRESENTED BY THE REGIONAL AND URBAN COUNCILS FOR THE FIFTH YEAR RUNNING, IS THE BIGGEST EVER BEING STAGED IN THE TERRITORY.

MORE THAN A THOUSAND SPECIES OF FLORAL ARRANGEMENTS, PUT ON BY LOCAL ORGANISATIONS AND OVERSEAS PARTICIPANTS, WILL BE ON DISPLAY DURING THE 10-DAY EXTRAVAGANZA.

ATTENTION NEWS EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE EVENT.

----- 0 -----

I.D. CARD REMINDER FOR WOMEN BORN IN 1929-34
* * * * *

THE IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT TODAY (THURSDAY) REMINDED WOMEN BORN IN 1929, 1930, 1931, 1932, 1933 AND 1934 TO APPLY FOR NEW IDENTITY CARDS BEFORE MARCH 28.

"TO AVOID THE LAST-MINUTE RUSH, WOMEN OF THIS AGE GROUP WHO HAVE NOT YET APPLIED FOR A NEW IDENTITY CARD SHOULD COME FORWARD WITHOUT DELAY," A DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID.

"FAILURE TO APPLY FOR A NEW IDENTITY CARD WITHIN THE SPECIFIED PERIOD IS AN OFFENCE LIABLE TO A MAXIMUM FINE OF \$3,000," HE ADDED.

APPLICANTS CAN GO TO ANY ONE OF THE EIGHT NEW IDENTITY CARD ISSUE OFFICES TO REPLACE THEIR IDENTITY CARDS.

THE OFFICE HOURS OF THE ISSUE OFFICES ARE FROM 9 AM TO 5 PM, MONDAY TO FRIDAY, AND FROM 9 AM TO 1 PM ON SATURDAY. ALL OFFICES CLOSE ON SUNDAY AND PUBLIC HOLIDAYS.

APPLICANTS MAY MAKE USE OF THE PHONE-IN SERVICE TO ARRANGE FOR AN APPOINTMENT BY CALLING THE OFFICES OF THEIR CHOICE.

/THE ADDRESSES

THURSDAY, MARCH 7, 1991

- 12 -

THE ADDRESSES AND TELEPHONE NUMBERS OF THE ISSUE OFFICES ARE:

HONG KONG: BASEMENT, 151 GLOUCESTER ROAD, WAN CHAI
TEL. NO. 574 7070

EAST KOWLOON: AMOY PLAZA, SECOND FLOOR, 77 NGAU TAU KOK ROAD,
NGAU TAU KOK
TEL. NO. 755 3669

WEST KOWLOON: CANTON ROAD GOVERNMENT OFFICES, SECOND FLOOR,
393 CANTON ROAD, YAU MA TEI
TEL. NO. 723 2424

TSUEN WAN: EAST ASIA COMMERCIAL CENTRE, GROUND FLOOR,
29-37 TSUEN FU STREET
TEL. NO. 498 0117

SHA TIN: SHOP 8A, SECOND FLOOR, CHANWAY SHOPPING CENTRE,
11-17, SHA TIN CENTRE STREET
TEL. NO. 605 9108

YUEN LONG: HOP YICK CENTRE, SECOND FLOOR, 31 HOP YICK ROAD
TEL. NO. 477 1543

TUEN MUN: CHI LOK COMMERCIAL CENTRE, GROUND FLOOR,
CHI LOK FA YUEN
TEL. NO. 458 0646

SHEUNG SHUI: TSUEN WO TAI LAU, GROUND FLOOR,
82-84 SAN FUNG AVENUE, SHEK WU HUI
TEL. NO. 672 7191

THEY MAY ALSO MAKE USE OF THE 24-HOUR RECORDED MESSAGE SERVICE BY DIALLING 824 0303 TO ENQUIRE ABOUT DETAILS OF THE DOCUMENTS TO BRING ALONG.

THE SPOKESMAN REITERATED THAT THERE WOULD BE NO AMNESTY FOR ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS.

- - - - 0 - - - -

YAU TSIM TO HOLD FIGHT CRIME CARNIVAL

* * * * *

A FIGHT CRIME CARNIVAL WILL BE HELD AT THE PLAZA OF KOWLOON PARK, TSIM SHA TSUI, ON SATURDAY (MARCH 9), BEGINNING AT 2.30 PM.

ORGANISED BY THE YAU TSIM DISTRICT FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE WITH SPONSORSHIP OF THE DISTRICT BOARD, IT WILL MARK THE CLOSE OF A SERIES OF LARGE-SCALE OUTDOOR FIGHT CRIME ACTIVITIES FOR THE PERIOD 1990-91.

THE CARNIVAL WILL FEATURE A VARIETY SHOW, STALL GAMES, A CRIME REPORTING QUIZ TO INTRODUCE TO THE PUBLIC A NEW IDENTIFICATION PARADE FACILITY AND DISPLAYS OF ANTI-CAR THEFT INSTALLATIONS.

/THERE WILL

THERE WILL ALSO BE A DISPLAY OF THE WINNING ENTRIES OF A RECENT FIGHT CRIME POSTER DESIGN COMPETITION.

THE SECRETARY FOR SECURITY, MR ALISTAIR ASPREY, WILL OFFICIATE AT THE OPENING CEREMONY. OTHER GUESTS WILL INCLUDE THE YAU TSIM DISTRICT OFFICER, MISS ANNIE TANG; POLICE DISTRICT COMMANDER, MR PETER FERRY AND YAU TSIM DISTRICT BOARD CHAIRMAN, MR YIP WAH.

ATTENTION NEWS EDITORS:

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO COVER THE YAU TSIM DISTRICT FIGHT CRIME CARNIVAL WHICH WILL BEGIN AT 2.30 PM ON SATURDAY (MARCH 9) AT THE PLAZA OF KOWLOON PARK, TSIM SHA TSUI.

- - - - 0 - - - -

CSD PARTICIPATES IN FLOWER SHOW

* * * * *

BEAUTIFUL AND COLOURFUL FLOWERS AND PLANTS GROWN BY INMATES OF PENAL INSTITUTIONS AND VIETNAMESE MIGRANTS IN DETENTION CENTRES WILL BE ON DISPLAY FROM TOMORROW (FRIDAY) TO MARCH 17 AT THE HONG KONG FLOWER SHOW 1991 AT THE SHA TIN CENTRAL PARK.

THEY WILL BE DISPLAYED TOGETHER WITH PLANTS AND FLOWERS GROWN BY THE CORRECTIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT (CSD) STAFF.

A CSD SPOKESMAN SAID THIS IS THE SECOND TIME THE DEPARTMENT TOOK PART IN THE HONG KONG FLOWER SHOW.

LAST YEAR, THE DEPARTMENT PARTICIPATED IN THE FLOWER SHOW AT THE VICTORIA PARK.

"CSD'S PARTICIPATION IN THE FLOWER SHOW IS A GREAT BOOST TO THE GARDENING PROGRAMME NOW BEING IMPLEMENTED IN SOME PENAL INSTITUTIONS. THIS SERVES BOTH THERAPEUTIC AND RECREATIONAL PURPOSES FOR PRISONERS UNDER OUR CARE," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

GARDENING HAD ALSO BEEN INTRODUCED TO DETENTION CENTRES FOR VIETNAMESE MIGRANTS SO AS TO ENCOURAGE THE VIETNAMESE TO CULTIVATE A HEALTHY HOBBY, HE NOTED.

"ALSO, IT HELPS KEEP THEM OCCUPIED FOR A CONSTRUCTIVE PURPOSE," HE ADDED.

"AMONG THE INSTITUTIONS, GARDENING IS PARTICULARLY WELL PROMOTED AT MA HANG PRISON, TAI TAM GAP CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTION, HEI LING CHAU ADDICTION TREATMENT CENTRE, WHITEHEAD DETENTION CENTRE AND HEI LING CHAU DETENTION CENTRE," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

AT PRESENT, OVER 1,000 POTTED PLANTS AND FLOWERS OF DEFFERENT SPECIES ARE CULTIVATED, SOME AT GREENHOUSES, AT VARIOUS INSTITUTIONS.

- - - - 0 - - - -

THURSDAY, MARCH 7, 1991

- 14 -

TENDERS INVITED FOR SHORT-TERM TENANCY
* * * * *

THE BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT IS INVITING TENDERS FOR THE SHORT-TERM TENANCY OF A GOVERNMENT LOT AT PO KONG VILLAGE ROAD, KOWLOON.

THE SITE, MEASURING ABOUT 6,200 SQUARE METRES, IS FOR FEE-PAYING PARKING AREA FOR GOODS VEHICLES EXCLUDING CONTAINER VEHICLES.

THE TENANCY IS FOR ONE YEAR AND IS RENEWABLE QUARTERLY AFTERWARDS.

THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF TENDERS IS 12 NOON ON MARCH 22.

TENDER FORMS, TENDER NOTICE AND CONDITIONS MAY BE OBTAINED FROM AND TENDER PLAN INSPECTED AT, THE DISTRICT LANDS OFFICE, KOWLOON EAST, 10TH FLOOR, YAU MA TEI CAR PARK BUILDING, 250 SHANGHAI STREET, KOWLOON AND THE BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT, 14TH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG.

----- 0 -----